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MMA derailed

The railway at the centre of the Lac-Mégantic disaster has its licence to operate in Canada suspended indefinitely

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Plutonium power pros and cons

On the one hand, with that half life you can't beat the mileage; on the other, it tends to attract nefarious international super-villain types

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FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

SASKATCHEWAN'S BRIANNE THEISEN EATON MAKES HISTORY AT THE WORLD TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS IN MOSCOW

PAGE 20



CIRCUS SMACKDOWN

It started out as an animal-rights protest outside the World Famous Shrine Circus at the RA Centre on Saturday, and devolved into a mixed-martial-arts-style scuffle between two men, complete with chokeholds and screaming. It was captured on video (from which the above image is taken) and posted to YouTube. For more on what went down and the police investigation, see page 4.

MICHELE THORN/YOUTUBE

OC Transpo LRT detours could cost nearly \$91 million

Confederation line.

City officials can't seem to give clear answer about where money will come from



ALEX BOUTILIER

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The bill for OC Transpo detours and capital costs that will be required during the construction of the Confederation LRT line was estimated at more than \$90 million last month.

Documents released under access to information show OC Transpo is estimating it needs additional operating costs of \$73.3 million and an additional capital cost of \$17.6 million for up to 75 new buses.

The numbers are rough estimates and plans are still being refined. But Pat Scrimgeour, OC Transpo's manager of plan-

Quoted

"It all adds up to a requirement for more hours of service, more operators on staff, and more buses in the fleet."

Pat Scrimgeour, manager of planning and reporting, OC Transpo

ning and reporting, confirmed they're in the ballpark.

"The Transitway is so quick, that any detour ... will be slower," Scrimgeour said on Monday. "So it all adds up to a requirement for more hours of service, more operators on staff and more buses in the fleet."

How many more buses OC Transpo will need is still being worked out — Scrimgeour anticipates fewer than the original estimate of 75. One challenge faced by the transit service is that while more buses may be required

during the construction, many fewer will be needed once construction finishes in 2018.

Scrimgeour said OC Transpo might try to extend the life of a few buses that would ordinarily be retired, or pursue leasing to solve that problem.

It's not clear exactly where the money for increased capital and operational pressures will come from. Scrimgeour said there's an amount of money set aside in the overall LRT deal, but he couldn't say how much.

In minutes of a confidential May 2013 transit services meeting, OC Transpo general manager John Manconi said his understanding was that part of the operating costs associated with the detour, then estimated to be \$63 million, would come from the light-rail contract's \$100 million contingency fund.



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Ontario children's treatment centres to get \$10M boost

Twenty facilities to benefit. The extra support is expected to help between 900 and 1,300 children across Ontario



JOE LOFARO
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The provincial government said it is pumping \$10 million into Ontario's 20 children's treatment centres, to help youth with special needs and to reduce wait times for autism programs.

"Families will benefit from better access to therapy and specialized care that is critical for the success of their children," said Teresa Piruzza, minister of children and youth services, on Tuesday at the Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre on Smyth Road.

Half the funding will go to services such as physical, occupational and speech therapy, while another \$5 million will be reinvested within the ministry to improve access to Intensive Behavioural Intervention therapy for children with autism.

It can be several years after a diagnosis that a child can

start to receive therapy for autism. At any given time there is an average of 500 to 1,000 names of children on a waiting list, the minister said.

"The wait times now, depending on the service, depending on the region, varies anywhere between 20 to 27 days across the province on average," said Piruzza. "So anything we can do to reduce that wait list, reduce that time, is absolutely what we're moving forward towards."

She said that the funds will flow to all treatment centres provincewide beginning in the fall.

Erin Fobert held back tears when she spoke of how the centre helped her son Nolan, 6, who has battled a complicated heart defect since birth. Nolan's dad, Adam, said his son underwent five open-heart surgeries and seven angioplasties before his fourth birthday.

"We went from spending our days in isolation to being welcomed by a dedicated and caring group of professionals who had our son's best interest at heart," said Nolan's father.

"I felt safe leaving him in such capable professionals," added Erin. "The intense therapeutic and academic support he receives at the school is remarkable. He's a more social, confident, and happier boy."



Teresa Piruzza, minister of children and youth services, speaks with Nolan Fobert, 6, at the Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre Tuesday, after announcing more funding for children with special needs. JOE LOFARO/METRO

Police search for owners of stolen burial urn



Ottawa police are searching for the owners of this burial urn and plaque, which were found near Hog's Back Park on July 31. CONTRIBUTED

Ottawa police are searching for the rightful owners of an urn they believe was stolen in a home invasion and ditched near Hog's Back Park.

Police said Tuesday that the urn was noticed by a passerby on the west side of the park in a lightly wooded area on July 31. Inside was a plastic bag from Cercueils Magog Caskets containing

ashes, a small decorative plaque with the message "for always and no matter what," several rocks, dry flowers and a man's ring.

Det. Jamie Lalonde of the force's break-and-enter section said police searched through recent reports to attempt to identify the urn's owner but turned up no reports of a stolen urn.

"It's devastating for the family, obviously," Lalonde said on Tuesday. "I think when (thieves) realized what it was, it got discarded.... We're hoping the public can help us out and hopefully find the rightful owner."

The urn is dark brown with a brass- or gold-coloured trim, approximately 10 inches long with a 3.5-inch-diam-

eter base.

Lalonde said he has previously heard of urns being taken by robbers and ditched once they realized what they'd taken.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Lalonde at 613-236-1222 ext. 3420 or phone Crime Stoppers at 613-233-8477.

ALEX BOULIER/METRO

Virus-derived

Ottawa doctors create promising leukemia treatment

Researchers at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute and the University of Ottawa have developed a new virus-derived treatment they hope will be the key to fighting

leukemia.

Dr. David Conrad and Dr. John Bell said their method of using a non-replicating, virus-derived particle to combat blood cancer has proved promising in laboratory tests — both against human leukemia samples and in lab mice.

Their method is to take a virus — which occurs in na-

ture, but does not normally affect humans — and blast it with UV radiation, removing its ability to replicate. What's left is a virus-derived particle that the body can handle, and that seeks and destroys blood-cancer cells.

While normal cells are able to handle the particles, cancer cells seem to self-destruct when they encounter

it, said Conrad.

Getting the virus to stop replicating is crucial, so as to prevent a cancer patient's already diminished immune system from being overwhelmed, Conrad explained.

Early tests found the treatment was able to kill multiple forms of leukemia in laboratory samples. In addition, 80 per cent of lab-

oratory mice that received the therapy lived longer — and, more promising, 60 per cent were eventually cured.

Conrad hopes the method may one day be applied to other forms of cancer.

The research team hopes to have the therapy ready for preliminary clinical trials in a year or two.

ALEX BOULIER/METRO

Video shows animal-rights protest ending in violent scuffle

Recorded. Police investigating incident captured on video



JOE LOFARO
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An Ottawa man is hoping police lay charges after a woman captured a scuffle between him and another man on video during a protest at the RA Centre Saturday and posted it to YouTube.

"I was terrified and I feared for my life, literally," said Len Goldberg in an interview Tuesday.

Goldberg alleges the man who attacked him is Lionel Rowe, the circus chairman of the Tunis Shriners in Ottawa.

The video runs just more than two and a half minutes, and appears to show Goldberg handing out pamphlets while wearing a fez, similar to those worn by Shriners, near the Billings Bridge entrance of the RA Centre. He and other demonstrators with the Ottawa Animal Defence League were protesting the three-day Shrine Circus.

A man in a Hawaiian shirt can be seen in the video approaching Goldberg

and removing the cap from his head and then being pursued and grabbed at by Goldberg.

The hat was purchased from eBay and wasn't part of the Shrine Circus, Goldberg said.

The video shows a struggle between the two men. The man puts Goldberg into a chokehold as he reaches for the fez on the ground. As both men struggle on their knees, several bystanders are seen rushing toward the pair, pleading with the man to let Goldberg go.

One woman attempts to take pictures of the man who put Goldberg in the chokehold. Michele Thorn, the woman who recorded the video, can be heard saying, "We know who it is. It's Lionel Rowe."

Another man joins the fray and begins grappling with Goldberg's apparent attacker, saying he won't let go until the man, who can be heard making a gagging sound, calms down.

"I felt completely helpless," Thorn told Metro. "It was definitely horrible because I didn't know how to help my friend."

She said she felt it was necessary to keep filming in order to show police the video. She said she sent police a longer version of the video on DVD on Sunday.



In this composite image assembled from a YouTube video, Len Goldberg is seen at left struggling with another man wearing a Hawaiian shirt. At right, a third man has intervened, putting the man in the Hawaiian shirt in a rear naked chokehold and allowing Goldberg to escape. MICHELE THORN/YOUTUBE

Goldberg said he was advised by his lawyer, Camille Labchuk, to not disclose certain details of the incident as Ottawa police investigate. Const. Marc Soucy con-

firmed police responded to the RA Centre at approximately 3:45 p.m. and are investigating the incident.

No charges have been laid. "It's under investiga-

tion and that's all I'm going to say," said Soucy.

Metro called and emailed Rowe Tuesday, but he could not be reached for comment.

Follow Joe Lofaro on
Twitter @giuseppelo



Rob Ford: Loves Ottawa, but prefers being Toronto mayor

It seems Mayor Jim Watson can breathe a sigh of relief — Toronto Mayor Rob Ford doesn't want Watson's job.

Self-described "grumpy old man" Earle Rheume sent Ford an email asking him to take over as mayor of Ottawa: Mr. Ford, The Toronto media have really gotten in your face over the years and that's unfortunate for you and the citizens of the GTA. While I can only speak for myself I recognize that many of my friends and acquaintances would welcome you as Ottawa's mayor. As a matter of fact we would gladly trade Jim Watson for you and throw in our 24 councillors to even things out. Keep up the good fight Rob.

Best regards,
Earle Rheume

Rheume says Ford wrote back:

Dear Earle,
Thank you for the note of support. Although I do love Ottawa, Toronto is my home and heart.

As promised during the mayoral election, I am dedicated to delivering excellence in citizen outreach, creating a transparent and accountable government, reducing the size and cost of government and building a transportation city. I remain committed to making Toronto a great city in which to live, work and play.

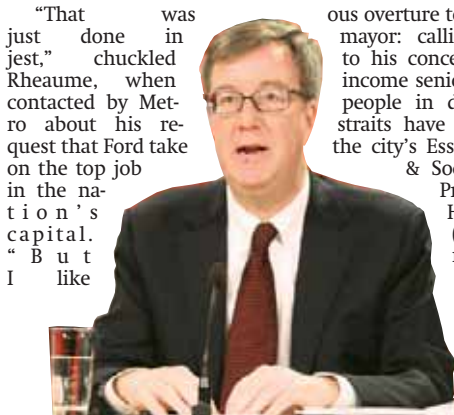
Thank you again for the greetings, please contact my office again at any time.

Yours truly,
Mayor Rob Ford
City of Toronto

Rheume forwarded the emails to dozens of Canadian reporters and politicians. Metro requested independent confirmation from Ford's of-

fice that the note is real, but has not yet been able to confirm the validity of the email. Mayor Watson could not be reached for comment, as he is on vacation.

"That was just done in jest," chuckled Rheume, when contacted by Metro about his request that Ford take on the top job in the nation's capital. "But I like



Ford. He's an honest guy and he fights for the little guy. Watson, he's fighting for his job."

Rheume said he had a serious reason for his humorous overture to the Toronto mayor: calling attention to his concern that low-income seniors and other people in dire financial straits have to apply for the city's Essential Health

& Social Supports Program and Home Help (EHSSP) and may not know that they are eligible. Rheume says there are about 130

people who qualify, but he doesn't know who they are and he says the city hasn't done enough to make the people who might be eligible aware.

"I've been working on this for five years and nobody will give me the time of day," said Rheume. "It's like telling people they can drive, but not telling them where the office is so they can

go and get a licence."

The City of Ottawa's general manager of community and social services, Aaron Burry, told Metro that details of the EHSSP are available on the city's website, through 311 and 211 phone services and through local social workers and hospitals.

Burry said those in need of the service must be aware of it since the city receives multiple referrals to the program every day. SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO



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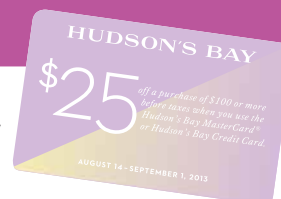
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Wednesday, August 14, 2013

Senate sends Wallin audit to Mounties

Expects \$82,000 back.

Senator not allowed to write off travel costs for next 12 months

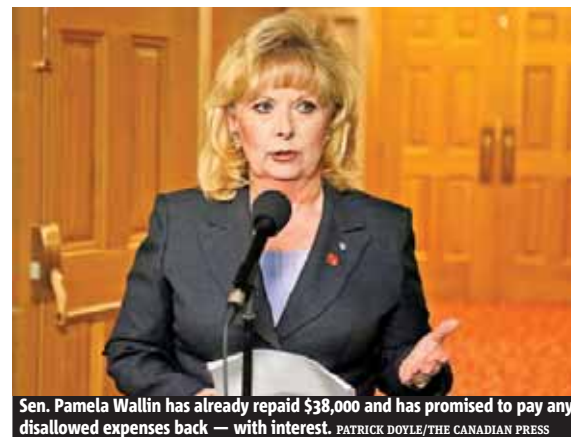
Partisan Conservative fundraisers, a short hop to catch a flight to the Caribbean and glitzy awards galas are just some of the expenses Sen. Pamela Wallin billed to taxpayers under the guise of Senate business.

The Saskatchewan senator now faces the prospect of an RCMP probe, as well as paying back more than \$82,000 after an audit flagged a host of inappropriate travel claims dating back to her very first days in the upper chamber.

Wallin's ability to travel on the taxpayers' dime will be restricted for at least the next 12 months, Senate committee members said Tuesday.

"I believe I can speak for my colleagues on both sides when I say that we found aspects of the Deloitte report very troubling," said Liberal Sen. George Furey.

The former broadcaster has called the audit "flawed and



Sen. Pamela Wallin has already repaid \$38,000 and has promised to pay any disallowed expenses back — with interest. PATRICK DOYLE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

unfair," and her attorney has complained to auditing firm Deloitte about leaks of confidential information.

"Virtually nothing has happened ... which has not in some form or another found its way into the media," wrote Terrence O'Sullivan.

Deloitte auditors flagged \$121,348 in inappropriate expenses and called for further review of nearly \$21,000 in additional claims. Wallin has

already repaid \$38,000.

The audit also found that changes had been made retroactively to entries in Wallin's electronic calendar once the audit process had begun.

Wallin says the changes were the result of advice she received in order to co-operate with the audit. Conservative Sen. David Tkachuk said he only told Wallin to omit irrelevant information.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Caught red handed?

Surgeon accused of stealing heroin from gut of mule

Russian police have arrested a surgeon who they say stole some of the heroin he had been called on to extract from the stomach of a suspected drug mule.

Police in the Siberian region of Krasnoyarsk say that after investigators discovered some of the drugs were missing, they searched the surgeon and found a packet containing five grams of heroin hidden in his clothes.

The surgeon, who was not identified, was under the influence of narcotics when he was apprehended, according to the police statement issued Tuesday.

If convicted, the doctor faces up to 15 years in prison. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Calgary. Thieves dump out ashes of car-crash victim

Car prowlers on the hunt for loose change and other valuables have taken something from a grieving Calgary mother that money can't buy.

Colleen Ransom had kept her daughter Emma's ashes in her pickup truck since the 19-year-old student and three friends were killed in a 2009 car crash.

On Aug. 2, several vehicles were broken into on Colleen's street, and someone removed a green pouch with Emma's remains inside and emptied it onto the rain-soaked street.

Colleen was only able to salvage a few ashes and came forward Tuesday pleading with the public to help police nab the burglars responsible.

"Who would do that?" she asked. "It's a violation."

Also stolen was a green rain jacket that belonged to Emma.

Police are looking to speak



Colleen Ransom with a picture of her daughter and the pouch of her ashes. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO IN CALGARY

with three girls between the ages of 14 and 17 spotted in the neighbourhood.

Neighbour Garrett Smith said most of the neighbours he's spoken to said the thieves only took change out of the vehicles and ignored higher-value electronics.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO IN CALGARY

'I took the force of it on my chin'

Victoria. Bicycling to work quickly turned into a nightmare for father after he ran into electrical-tape trip line



LUKE SIMCOE
Metro Online

Sterling Eyford nearly severed his spine and now has five titanium plates holding his jaw together, all because electrical tape was mysteriously strung across a road in Victoria, B.C.

Eyford, 34, was cycling to work Friday morning when he collided with the tape. He was thrown off his bike and landed on the road.

"I took the whole force of it on my chin," he said.

His jaw shattered in two places. He lost a tooth. He hyperextended his neck. He has minor neurological damage in his hands and arms, and will be eating through a straw

for weeks.

"I pushed my spinal cord as far as it could go without being severed," he said. "I feel lucky. It could have been so much worse."

Eyford works as a casual producer for CBC, and says the "stupid prank" will cost him weeks of work and put undue stress on his family.

"I have two little girls at home," he said. "I can't even pick my kids up right now."

According to the Victoria Police Department, the black tape was strung on an angle between two traffic signs on Kings Road. It's not clear why the tape was there, or whether it was an intentional attempt to target cyclists or motorists.

Police are appealing to the public for help identifying possible suspects.

"I hope the whole weight of the law falls on these people," Eyford said.

"But I also want them to realize they did something extremely stupid and extremely violent."

"They attacked me."



'Justice for Sammy, justice for all'

Sarah Yatim, sister of Sammy Yatim, helps lead a march up Yonge Street in Toronto. Hundreds of protesters waving banners and placards spilled into the streets outside the city's police headquarters Tuesday chanting "Justice for Sammy, justice for all," referring to the 18-year-old who died last month after being shot and Tasered by officers. Yatim's mother and sister, along with the families of other police-shooting victims, attended the protest, which coincided with a monthly public meeting of Toronto's police services board. TEXT: THE CANADIAN PRESS; PHOTO: RANDY RISLING/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Middle East

Israeli military intercepts rocket

The Israeli military shot down a rocket launched toward a Red Sea resort town near the border with Egypt on Tuesday, the army said.

It was the first time Israel's Iron Dome missile defence system successfully intercepted a rocket attack on the resort of Eilat, the military said. The incident came after days of heightened tension along the Egypt-Israel border.

The army said the rocket was intercepted early Tuesday and that there were no injuries. It didn't provide more details and declined to comment on the origins of the projectile.

An al-Qaida-inspired militant group based in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, Ansar Jerusalem, claimed responsibility for launching the rocket in an email to The Associated Press. The little-known group is hostile to both Israel and Egypt and was behind an attack in August 2011 near Eilat that killed eight people.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Food safety. Coca-Cola ads to defend artificial sweeteners

Coca-Cola plans to run its first ad defending the safety of artificial sweeteners on Wednesday, a move that comes as the company looks to stem declining sales of diet soda.

The print ad is set to run in USA Today in the Atlanta area, followed by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution on Thursday and the Chicago Tribune next week. It says that diet drinks can help people manage their weight and stresses the scientific evidence showing the safety of aspartame, more

commonly known under the NutraSweet brand name.

The ad represents the next phase of a campaign Coca-Cola Co. launched in January to push back at critics who blame its sugary drinks for spiking obesity rates.

The first wave of ads outlined the company's commitment to fighting obesity and pointed to the many diet options it offers.

Now Coca-Cola is trying to reassure people that those lower-calorie drinks aren't harmful. "Coke is trying to get out front and proactively defend these diet sweeteners," said John Sicher, editor of Beverage Digest.

Sales of diet sodas are falling at a faster rate than regular sodas in the U.S., according to Beverage Digest. The declines come even though the U.S. Food and Drug Administration says aspartame may be safely used in foods as a sweetener, and the ingredient can be found in a wide array of other types of drinks and foods. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Coca-Cola will run an ad in U.S. papers in an attempt to reassure people that its lower-calorie drinks aren't harmful. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE**

Railway in Quebec tragedy has its licence suspended

Montreal. Federal regulator made call after reviewing MMA's liability insurance

The railway at the centre of the Lac-Mégantic, Que., train disaster will have its operating licence suspended in Canada, a severe blow to an already crippled company.

The Canadian Transportation Agency announced Tuesday that it's revoking the certificates of fitness for the Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway Ltd. and its Canadian subsidiary, Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Canada Co.

The arm's-length federal regulator says it made the decision after reviewing the railway's third-party liability insurance following the fiery July 6 derailment that killed 47 people and wiped out part



An engineer checks the engine of a Montreal, Maine & Atlantic locomotive on July 11 outside the company's offices in the town of Farnham, Que. The Canadian Transportation Agency announced Tuesday that it's revoking the certificate of fitness for the embattled railway company. **GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

of downtown Lac-Mégantic.

"We have concluded that (the coverage) is not adequate, thereby we have no choice but to suspend their certificate of fitness," said agency spokeswoman Jacqueline

Bannister. "We have given them until Aug. 20 to conclude their railway activities in Canada."

The agency said it had advised the railway that it must maintain at least the same

amount of third-party liability coverage it had before the derailment. But it said MMA's insurance broker indicated the aggregate coverage had been cut in half since the derailment. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Washington

U.S. Justice Dept. seeks to block airline merger

The U.S. federal government is trying to block the proposed merger of American Airlines and US Airways, saying it would cause "substantial harm" to consumers by leading to

higher fares and fees.

The U.S. Justice Department, joined by the attorneys general of six states and the District of Columbia, filed a lawsuit to block the merger Tuesday in federal court in Washington, D.C. The airlines said the government's conclusions were wrong, and they vowed to use "all legal options" to fight back. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Waterloo

BB Q5 goes on sale amid chatter about firm's future

The latest smartphone from BlackBerry hit store shelves in Canada on Tuesday, a day after the tech company announced it was exploring "strategic alternatives" including its



A BlackBerry Q5

possible sale. Rumours began circulating last week that the company could be scooped up by an interested buyer or even go private. CIBC analyst Todd Coupland suggested BlackBerry could be worth as much as \$20 per share in a takeover. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Market Minute



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(-0.38¢)



TSX
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11 Colonel by Drive

HYPERLOOP CREATOR HAS CREDIBILITY

How cool is this:

A transport system that gets people from San Francisco to Los Angeles in half an hour using currently available technology?

It's called Hyperloop, the latest crazy plan from Elon Musk, the visionary who has so far given the world PayPal, the Tesla electric car and SpaceX, the world's only private space program.

Hyperloop is a solar-powered, lightweight, pneumatic system that proposes to move people and cars from one destination to another at 1,000 kilometres an hour. The tubes would follow California's I-5 and, unlike the rapid rail system now in the planning process, farmers would still be able to plant their crops under the columns.

Any way you look at it — cost, speed, efficiency, access, land use — Musk's estimated \$10-billion bright idea compares favourably to the now-planned \$70-billion-to-\$100-billion train that would poke along at about 320 kilometres an hour.

So why is everyone dumping all over it? Typical of the expert



JUST SAVIN'

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca

opinion on Hyperloop is Richard White, a professor of American history at Stanford and author of *Railroaded: The Transcontinentals and the Making of Modern America*.

"It doesn't seem plausible to me," he told *The New York Times*. "I'm suspicious about everything, especially cost."

I'm not sure what Richard White thought when Musk announced SpaceX in 2002, but I don't think there was anyone who really believed it would be the first privately held company to take cargo to the International Space Station a mere 10 years later.

Elon Musk has visionary cred. While the tenured professors of negativity mutter in their beards, Elon Musk is busy designing the future.

Along with a few others such as the recently departed Steve Jobs, Google's Sergey Brin and tech-genius emeritus Bill Gates.

Not everything these guys dream up works. Landfills are littered with Newton personal digital assistants, and Vista software

bundles, and Google seems to shut down as many services as it launches. But look at what they've brought to the table. Modern wonders of the world:

- A place where you can go and ask any question about anything and get a million answers.
- Programs that allow you to write, calculate, communicate, design, create and connect, all from your lap.
- Small devices that fit into your pocket that allow you to store, organize and access as many beautiful words, pictures and melodies as you can stand.

Not to mention a rocket-ship company that has single-handedly saved the International Space Station, our seed pod to the stars.

Sadly, for every Elon Musk, there are 100 Richard Whites. Eminent, expert and enervating. People who can tell you how it won't work. Prophets of failure.

We need more Elon Musks, people who look at grinding challenges such as gridlock and climate change and see opportunity. More than that: They see excitement. Their eyes sparkle.

It's like corny old Buzz Lightyear likes to say: To infinity and beyond! Why would we want to go anywhere else?

ZOOM

Rustic rock villa meets urban upset



IMAGINECHINA/REX FEATURES

One castle in the sky not wanted

A mysterious Chinese medicine practitioner has been ordered to dismantle a rocky mountain villa built on top of a 26-storey block of apartments in Beijing.

Neighbours say Prof. Zhang Biqing began to illegally build the huge rock dwelling six years ago and they live in fear that the weight will cause the building to collapse. **METRO**

Costly

\$3.5M

At 27,349 yuan (\$4,468 US) per square metre for property in the Chinese capital, and 800 square metres (8,600 square feet) of rocky terrain, Zhang's luxury rooftop pad could be worth more than \$3.5 million US.

The faux mountain home is covered by fake rockeries, real trees and bushes, and is located in one of the city's more upmarket areas.

Unlicensed add-ons and alterations to homes is a common practice among China's wealthiest.

15-day deadline for demolition

The suites beneath Zhang's already suffer from cracks and leaking roofs. One neighbour had complained to the local urban management office, but Zhang allegedly hired thugs to beat him up and he then moved away. Following media exposure, the local urban management office has now ordered Zhang to dismantle the property within 15 days or it will be torn down. **METRO**

Quoted

"Since I dare to live here, I am not worried about complaints. Famous people come to my place and sing. How can you stop them? I used to worry that the house might be too much but I never expected this much attention."

Zhang told Beijing Morning News

Clickbait



ANDREW FIFIELD

andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Are you suffering from the affliction of having way too much available data on your phone plan? Nip that problem in the bud with these recent online multiplayer gems. Besides, it's more fun to play together.

Ultima Forever

What's being billed as the App Store's largest free-to-play RPG has been a blast in the days since it launched. There's no cross-platform play, sadly, but the developers are promising it. (iOS/Free)

Finest Hour

This turn-based, First World War-era tank warfare with a board game feel has been my favourite release for quite a while. Manage your fleet of armoured



war machines, with special care to positioning that exploits the weaknesses of your opponents' tanks while defending against the vulnerabilities of your own. Easily worth the cost. (iOS/\$0.99)

Disc Drivin'

OK, so there's nothing new about Disc Drivin', but I've recently rediscovered it buried among my app folders. A turn-based racing game where the vehicle of choice is a weighted disc you flick around a tricky track. (iOS/\$1.99)

Letters

RE: Ontario to examine pesticides as possible cause of bee deaths, published July 9

It was good to see a couple of articles back in July on the problems honeybees are having. Keep up the good work. I think the public needs to be made aware of how the honeybee has become an essential part of modern agriculture. Without it, the large crops of fruits, vegetables, nuts and even cotton wouldn't be pollinated.

The U.S. lost so many honeybee colonies that every year the country imports honeybees from Australia in order to satisfy the demand from farmers.

Can you imagine having to hand pollinate the flowers on a pear tree in order to get a pear to grow? Can you imagine the cost of the fruit? Well it is already happening. There is a province in China that no longer has honeybees due to the use of pesticides and the pear trees have to be hand pollinated.

A few months ago the EU banned neonicotinoids for a couple of years. Hopefully this will help to slow or reverse the trend of the declining honeybee populations.

When a bug eats a leaf, it dies. When a honeybee takes pollen and nectar to its hive, it therefore feeds this poison to the brood as well as the adult bees.

Derrick To, Vancouver

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:

Send us your comments: ottawaletters@metronews.ca

You're not paranoid — movies on espionage are good business

I spy. Opening this weekend, *Paranoia* won't be the last in a long list of movies about double crossing businesses



IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

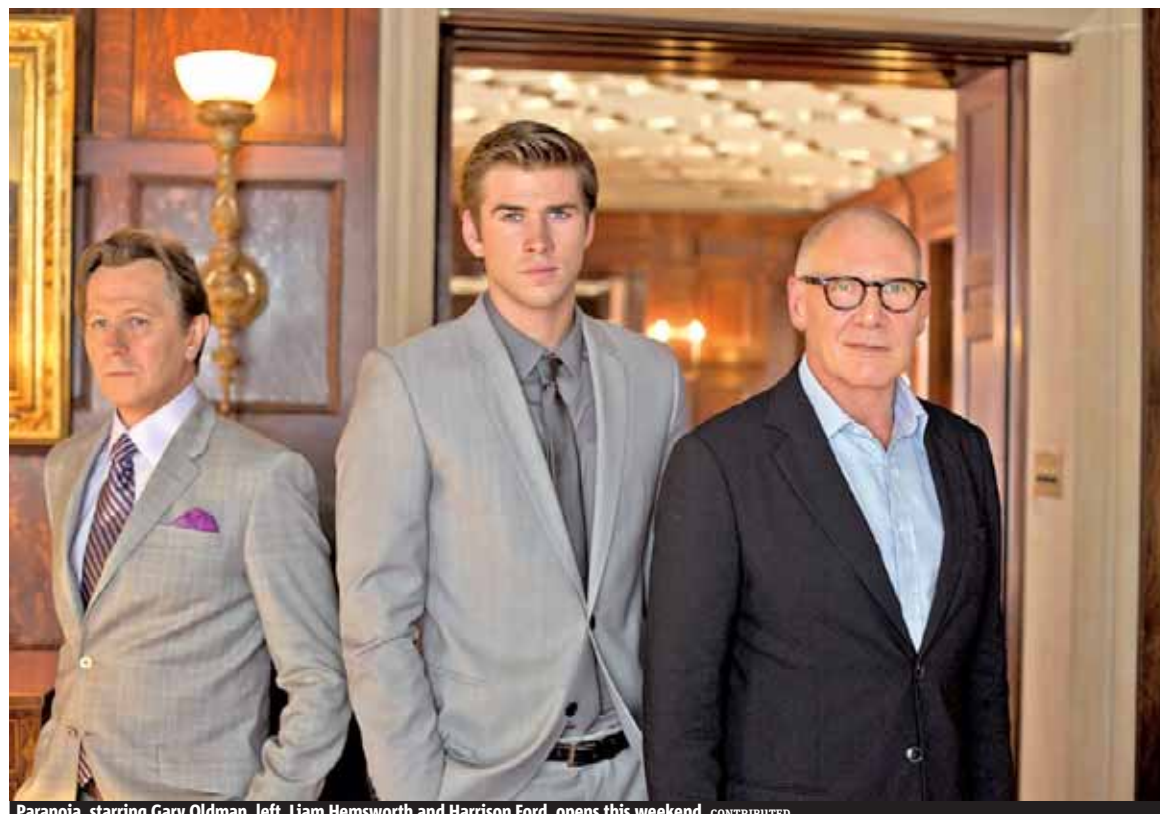
The word espionage is most commonly used in relation to spy stories. It conjures up images of James Bond, exotic locations and wild action scenes. But in many movies espionage has little to do with shaken not stirred martinis and Bond girls, and more to do with corporate secrets and intrigue.

This weekend, *Paranoia* explores the world of big business espionage as Adam Cassidy (Liam Hemsworth) finds himself doing dangerous double duty in the billion dollar world of high tech.

As an entry level employee, his boss Nicholas Wyatt (Gary Oldman) promises him a corner office, among other things, if he will spy on rival tech giant Jock Goddard (Harrison Ford).

That movie is set in the world of bits and bytes but corporate espionage comes in as many styles as that ergonomically designed chair in the CEO's office.

As the title would suggest, the movie *Duplicity* is ripe with lies and underhanded



Paranoia, starring Gary Oldman, left, Liam Hemsworth and Harrison Ford, opens this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

dealings. Julia Roberts and Clive Owen are former government spies now working in the private sector. Despite being intimately involved, they work for rival shampoo companies. It's a romantic comedy about undercover activities. Imagine if Rock Hudson and Doris Day had starred in *Mission Impossible* and you get the idea.

Genetics is the currency in *New Rose Hotel*, a 1999

Christopher Walken and Willem Dafoe film based on a short story by William Gibson. They play corporate moles hired to influence a Japanese bio-engineering expert to defect from one corporation to another. To seduce Dr. Hiroshi (Yoshitaka Amano) they hire a prostitute (Asia Argento) to win his affections. The plan doesn't work, and neither does the movie, really, but it's worth

a look for the flamboyant performances from Walken and Dafoe.

Finally, back in the world of high tech espionage, the Ben Affleck thriller *Paycheck* is a good little movie released at the wrong time. Wedged between *Gigli* and *Jersey Girl*, it came out at the height of Bennifer and the nadir of audience interest in Affleck as an actor.

Based on a Philip K Dick

short story, Affleck plays Jennings, a genius programmer hired by corporations to reverse engineer new products, recreating them anew. His work is so secretive that after he's done, his memory is wiped clean. The chicanery really begins when his employer (Aaron Eckhart) pulls a double cross, leaving Jennings with no money, no memory and a world of trouble.

2 SCENE



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Why there won't be an Elysium sequel and why it's a good thing

'One kick-ass movie.'

Despite taking the top spot at the box office, Matt Damon and Neill Blomkamp talk about why there isn't going to be a second run

NED
EHRBAR

Metro World News in Hollywood

Neill Blomkamp's science fiction action dystopia Elysium topped the box office its opening weekend, pulling in an estimated international gross of \$41.3 million.

Not too shabby, but success doesn't mean there will be a sequel — at least if Blomkamp has anything to say about it. The writer-director, who dodged pressure to make a sequel to District 9 and instead has followed it up with Elysium and his next film, the original Chappie, is something of a sequel-phobe.

No 2 for 1 deals

"I love what it says to the industry. There's not going to be a sequel to this movie. Just deal with it. I love that message."

Matt Damon

On why there won't be a sequel



Neill Blomkamp and Matt Damon are perfectly alright with there not being an Elysium sequel. CONTRIBUTED

"One of my favourite parts of filmmaking is just conceptualizing ideas," he says. "Executing them is very different to conceptualizing them. I tend to come up with a lot of ideas and I get attached to a lot of them. It creates a different mindset where it's like, 'I want to see this get executed and I want to see that get executed' as opposed to, 'I want to return back to this world from this film.' I have a few other ideas for films I want to make currently."

Of course, the film's studio and distributor, Sony,

would likely love the idea of building on the success of Elysium, but Blomkamp says he felt very little pressure on the subject from the higher-ups.

"It came up once or twice with Elysium, where it's like, 'Could we make a sequel out of it?' It was extremely minor, though," he says.

"It was as fleeting as the discussion of, 'Could the film be 3D?' It was the same thing, very minor."

For movie-goers who have already seen Elysium, the idea that there won't be a se-

quel is hardly a surprise. And that was a key aspect of the project that made it so appealing to star Matt Damon.

"I love what it says to the industry. There's not going to be a sequel to this movie. Just deal with it. I love that message," Damon says. "As a movie-goer it's hard not to be cynical when you see every movie trying to set up a sequel. Hopefully it will be refreshing and people will go, 'Oh, that's cool. These guys just tried to make one kick-ass movie and get out of there.'"

"REALLY....REALLY...F*--ING SCARY"
JAMES OSTER, JOBL0



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Oprah Winfrey. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Winfrey apologizes over Swiss bag dust-up

Oprah Winfrey really wishes everyone hadn't made such a big deal about her not being able to buy a handbag in Switzerland because the store clerk assumed she couldn't afford it.

"I think the incident in Switzerland was just an incident in Switzerland," Winfrey says, according to

the BBC.

"I'm really sorry that it got blown up. I purposefully did not mention the name of the store. I'm sorry that I said it was Switzerland. It's not an indictment against the country, or even that store. It's just one person who didn't want to offer me the opportunity to see the bag."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Miley Cyrus knows she is white, m'kay?



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Miley Cyrus, who is white, teamed up with French Montana, who is Moroccan, for a remix of his hit song 'Ain't Worried 'Bout Nothin'.

A portion of the collaboration, which was shot on an iPhone video, was put out onto the Interwebs on Monday. In the grainy video, Cyrus raps about "having thick chicks" and "stuntin' during Fashion Week."



In response to the clip, comments poured in — many of which were not so nice and seemed quite racially motivated — to which Cyrus replied via Twitter, "i know what color my skin is. you can stop with the friendly reminders b—."

It's been very interesting to watch the singer, who brought twerking into the mainstream, shed her Disney background and play her career and artistic self the way she wants to play it — no genres, no boundaries, no rules. Good for you, Miley.



Jennifer Garner

Garner wants to be known as more than a wife

Jennifer Garner makes it a point to attend some Hollywood events without husband Ben Affleck specifically so she'll be known as more than just his wife, she tells Allure magazine.

"It's a very conscious decision. Sometimes it's a pain because my heels are so high and it would be nice to have his arm. And he's such a great date," she says.

"But it can be too much. I think, especially for women, they can really lose their identity and just become 'wife of.'"

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Life can be one heck of a ride, especially on these coasters

Amusement. Summer may be winding down, but there's still plenty of time to get your heart racing with these rides

JULIE KAYZERMAN
Metro World News in New York City

Pete Trabucco has a pretty thrilling job if you ask us — he's an amusement park expert. Yes, that's an actual job. Jealous? The author of America's Top Roller Coasters and Amusement Parks gave us the 411 on the best roller coasters in the United States for you to see this summer.

Hottest new coaster

Gatekeeper Cedar Point, Sandusky, Ohio cedar-point.com

Trabucco calls Cedar Point the "Mecca for all roller coaster enthusiasts." Gatekeeper is "one of the most anticipated rides that's coming out of that location," he says. "It's an absolutely amazing wing coaster in which you are actually suspended on the other side of this entire track," he says. "You are just flying with nothing but just air."

Cedar Point has 16 coasters, including Gatekeeper. It is also the only amusement park to have four coasters taller than 200 feet, including Top Thrill Dragster, the second tallest roller coaster in the world.



There is still plenty of coaster-weather left this year. ISTOCK IMAGES

Tallest thriller

Kingda Ka Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson, N.J. sixflags.com/greatadventure

Going from zero to 128 m.p.h. in about four seconds, this steel accelerator reaches 456 feet before it drops 418 feet at a 90-degree angle.

Best wooden coaster

El Toro Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson, N.J.

This ride became the first wooden coaster to use a cable lift instead of a chain lift, allowing for a much

faster and steeper ride. El Toro has one of the steepest wooden-coaster drops and was voted the 2013 No. 1 wooden coaster by Amusement Today.

Best Florida coaster

Dragon Challenge Harry Potter World, Universal Park, Orlando, Fla. universalorlando.com/harrypotter

"The Dragon Challenge is basically two coasters that actually come tip to tip," says Trabucco. "When you're on the ride you actually almost touch toes as you loop the loop simultaneously."

Best kiddie coasters

"Any park that you go to, you're going to find at least one or two kid rides that are really well worth going on," Trabucco says. "If you're an adult and you're like me, you're not going to fit, but you hold your breath." Trabucco recommends:

- Sesame Place Langhorne, Pa. sesameplace.com
- Walt Disney World Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Fla. disneyworld.disney.go.com
- Runaway Mine Train Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson, N.J. sixflags.com/greatadventure

World's largest

Safari expansion nets Six Flags' new title

Move over Disney. Six Flags Great Adventure is now the world's largest park thanks to its newest expansion ride, Safari Off Road Adventure.

The Jackson, N.J., theme park reimagined its 38-year-old Wild Safari park during the off-season, outfitting

the 350-acre, 1,200-animal preserve with 18 open-air safari vehicles customized from surplus army trucks.

"It's a worthwhile, interesting attraction," says Paul Ruben, industry expert and North American editor of Park World magazine.

By merging the Safari reserve with the existing Great Adventure property, the park is now 510 acres — surpassing Walt Disney World's Animal Kingdom (500 acres) as the world's largest theme park.

CHRIS LONGO



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Squamish: Canada's natural workout

B.C. Who needs a row machine and spinning class when you've got kayaking and mountain bikes?

KATHY BUCKWORTH
Life@metronews.ca

Squamish easily earns its title as "Canada's Outdoor Recreation Playground" with the many elements that provide a natural workout for this very active community.

The rowing machine is traded in for a sea kayaking tour with Coast River Kayak School. They provide the equipment, training, and the commentary for a paddle out toward Howe Sound, stopping to take in the breathtaking scenery that surrounds you — mountains, birds, kites from the nearby kite boarding school, rustic beaches, logging activity and the occasional seal popping up and down.

Hiking The Chief, Canada's largest granite monolith, of-

fers a natural and scenic Stairmaster, featuring a steep hiking trail up over 600 metres of rocky terrain. Stone and wooden stairways take you up to ladders and chains before eventually opening up to the top to an unparalleled view of Squamish Valley.

The only better view you'll get is with the Sea to Sky Air team. Flying out of Squamish's tiny airport, tours up and down the valley are offered, and fliers can also have the opportunity to "take the wheel" with an expert flight instructor.

Spinning class can wait when you have the opportunity to rent bikes from the Sea to Sky Adventure Company (located inside the beautiful Squamish Adventure Centre), which includes everything from mountain bikes, which can take on the many trails, to the more sedate cruisers, perfect for a gentle cycle down riverside paths and through the downtown area. Cycle down to the Howe Sound Brewery, which offers 30 plus types of craft beers.

Their once a month beer-pairing dinners have become



Visitors to Squamish can choose between rapids and the slower moving parts of the Elaho and Squamish Rivers. CONTRIBUTED

a huge hit. Don't worry about jumping on that bike again afterwards, as the brewpub is also a 20-room inn.

Jumping and bumping is something you do in an aqua fit class; replace that with the white water rafting rides offered by Canadian Outback Ad-

ventures.

The Elaho River tour takes brave participants down heaving Class IV rapids, bouncing and throwing up gallons of glacial water. The quieter parts of this river, and the Squamish River that it joins up with, allow for a break from the "Paddle

hard" commands of the rugged raft guides. Guests of the Executive Suites Resort & Hotel can be picked up on site, and then return for drinks and gourmet food at The Living Room restaurant, or enjoy a meal in their kitchen-fit suite.

While the outdoors defines

Squamish, the Britannia Mine Museum shows what happens underneath the scenic elements. This historic site allows visitors to go down the tunnels, learn about mining and enter into the massive mill building, where the ghosts of miners are felt. Kids love the oversized dump truck and play area, while adults are drawn in by this important piece of copper history.

Every workout needs fuel, and the perfect spot is the award winning Fergie's Café, located at the charming Sunwolf lodge, which includes 10 cabins and one larger building available for renting.

In 2014, the views from the top of Squamish become available to everyone with the Sea to Sky Gondola.

Set to open in July 2014, this highly anticipated addition will allow people to travel up 2,500 feet and enjoy a restaurant, retail shops and a suspension bridge. For those still looking for an active alternative, new hiking and biking trails will be added at the summit. For more information visit tourismsquamish.com.



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Rent your vacation home. Then invite your friends and relatives to share the good times — and price tag. ISTOCK IMAGES

Making a vacation home your own — even if it isn't

Rent it. That mansion on the beach you've been lusting for may not be within your price range — but you can pretend

JULIA FURLAN
Metro World News in New York City

Jet-setting around town and living out of a suitcase may seem glamorous, but it gets old fast.

There's something special about crossing the threshold of a house — the kind of house you don't usually live in — and making it "home" for a few days.

Robert Milne, president of WyndhamVacation Rentals North America — a company specializing in luxury house rentals — gave us some tips about making yourself at home while you're on vacation.

What kind of folks usually go for rental houses?

Typically, our demographic, as you can probably imagine, is a family. But usually it's more than just two adults.

It's the mom and dad and maybe the uncle or a friend, because renting gives people an opportunity to invite other friends or family that they might not otherwise.

What makes renting a

house different from staying in a hotel?

I'm a perfect example of it, actually.

(My family) rents vacation houses when we travel, and it's funny how over the years different members of the family invited friends who we never would have thought of inviting if we were going to stay in a hotel.

It's like, even though we're good friends, I'm not going to invite you to stay in a hotel with me — but it's different when it is a house.

Plus, if you invite your friend along, the cost splits amongst a lot of people and makes it a good value.

Sites like VRBO, Airbnb and HomeAway make it easy to rent houses.

What makes your company different?

One of the bigger differences between the professionally managed properties versus houses managed by owners is that a lot of the owners don't have the sophistication of software to make sure that double-bookings and other problems don't happen.

We came up with a "renter's bill of rights" that we could stand behind as a company. It is a service pledge that promises high standards of customer service, real-time booking, accurate property portrayals and diverse properties with clean, regularly inspected units.

Advice

- **DO.** Ask questions beforehand. "We had one guest who showed up at a vacation rental and brought all of their sheets and towels, and they were floored to learn that the house already had linens. I think a lot of it is doing your research and making sure that you find out what amenities there are, too."
- **DON'T.** Obsess about work. "I always remind guests that there is so much to do and see that they should avoid bringing too much work with them. In my experience, staying at a rental means it becomes your home away from home — many of our guests feel the same way."

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A crepe isn't a crepe without a plum

These crepes are delicious for breakfast, brunch or dessert. The plums are cooked with star anise until just soft and complemented by the cardamom in the whipped cream.

1. In a large bowl, whisk

Ingredients

- 3 eggs, lightly beaten
- 500 ml (2 cups) milk
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) melted butter, plus extra for cooking crepes
- 250 ml (1 cup) all-purpose flour
- 5 ml (1 tsp) salt

Plums

- 15 ml (1 tbsp) vegetable oil
- 6 blue plums, pitted and quartered
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) granulated sugar
- 250 ml (1 cup) semi-dry white wine (such as Riesling)
- 8 whole star anise pods
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon

Whipped Cream

- 250 ml (1 cup) whipping cream (35 per cent)
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) liquid honey
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) ground cardamom

eggs, milk, 50 ml (1/4 cup) melted butter, flour and salt until no lumps remain. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours before making crepes.

2. Plums: In a large heavy-bottomed skillet, heat oil over medium heat. Brown cut side of plums for about 2 minutes per side; sprinkle with sugar. Add wine, star anise pods and lemon zest to skillet and bring to a boil; reduce heat to medium. Cook until plums are soft, about 4 minutes. With a slotted spoon, remove plums to a heatproof bowl.

3. Bring syrup to boil; boil until reduced by half, 5 to 6 minutes. Add lemon juice to taste; pour over plums. Cover and let cool to room temperature.

4. Crepes: Heat a 20-cm (8-inch) non-stick skillet over medium heat. Brush pan with melted butter. Pour 75 ml (1/3 cup) batter into centre of pan, tilting pan to cover bottom thinly. Return to heat for about 1 minute or until bottom is lightly browned. Using

Plum Crepes With Cardamom and Honey Whipped Cream



This recipe serves eight. COURTESY THE CANADIAN PRESS

a spatula, flip crepe over and brown other side. Remove to a plate. Repeat with remaining batter, buttering pan if needed. (Refrigerate crepes if not using immediately.)

5. Whipped Cream: Using an electric mixer, whip cream

on medium until thickened slightly. Slowly add honey and cardamom, whipping until stiff peaks form, about 2 minutes. Keep refrigerated until ready to use.

6. Remove star anise pods from plums. Place crepes on

cutting board. Divide plum mixture among 8 crepes, spooning mixture onto one half. Fold crepes over. Carefully transfer to serving plates; garnish with whipped cream and a star anise pod. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/ CHEF TAFIK SHEHATA FOR FOODLAND ONTARIO**

Drink of the Week

Breakfast of Champs

Kick off any hot summer day with this refreshing punch. It's simple and delicious, with lemon juice, simple syrup and soda water.

- 8.5 oz Belvedere Vodka
- 4 oz lemon juice
- 3 oz simple syrup
- 16 oz soda water

Add all ingredients into a glass jug. Garnish with lemon slices and mint.

COURTESY BELVEDERE VODKA



Pillowry goodness of pancakes

1. Compote: In a saucepan on low heat, cook berries with sugar for 30 minutes. Let cool and set aside.

2. Pancakes: Into a bowl, sift all dry ingredients and combine. Add eggs and mix in milk and buttermilk. The

batter should be thick but not too thick (if additional liquid is required, add a little water). Set aside and let rest for 1 hour.

3. In a frying pan or flat grill, heat a small amount of oil. When hot, spoon pan-

cake batter onto hot surface. Cook until pancakes start to bubble on top and are slightly dry around edges, about 2 minutes. Flip over and cook until golden, about 1 minute.

4. Repeat until all batter

has been used, keeping pancakes warm until ready to serve. Drizzle berry compote. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/EAT PRAY LOVE: REGIONALLY INSPIRED CUISINE BY ROCKY MOUNTAINEER, WITH RECIPES CREATED BY CHEFS JEAN PIERRE GUERIN AND FREDERIC COUTON**

Ingredients

Compote

- 50 ml (1/4 cup) blueberries
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) blackberries
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) strawberries
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) white sugar

Pancakes

- 125 ml (1/2 cup) whole-wheat flour
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) all-purpose flour

- 50 ml (1/4 cup) white sugar
- 10 ml (2 tsp) baking powder
- 5 ml (1 tsp) baking soda
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) salt
- 2 eggs
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) milk
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) buttermilk
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) canola oil, for cooking



There's a page for that in the new **IKEA Catalogue.**

Visit IKEA.ca/Catalogue to see it now.



It may feel like the end of the world but this is the perfect time to prove yourself as a professional. ISTOCK

The dos and don'ts of dealing with a d'oh!

Mending your first mistake. Turn that blunder into an opportunity to impress your business buds

MEGHAN
GREAVES
TalentEgg.ca

Mistakes happen, especially when first hatching your career. There's a lot to learn, a new workplace "style" to adhere to, and a ton of egg-citing but sometimes challenging scenarios. It doesn't help that being a new hire can be nerve-racking as well.

The good news is that it's more than likely that your employer will be understanding of your first "whoops" if you handle it properly. This is easy if you're equipped with the right skills. We did some research on how to overcome your first mistake at work and asked around to get more ideas.

Acknowledge that you've made a mistake

You've accidentally replied to everyone in a sensitive email, sent the wrong message or double-booked your boss.

The first thing to do is acknowledge the mistake. Don't sweep it under the rug for someone else to find. Owning up prevents the mistake from snowballing into a serious problem.

This is also the perfect time to take any responsible steps to reverse the mistake, if possible.

Take responsibility

You've acknowledged that a mistake has been made, developed a solution and brought the situation to your manager. Now it's time to apologize.

- Your apology doesn't have to be an overwrought speech, but it should be genuine.
- Apologizing shows your employer right off the bat that you are being professional about the situation and gives him or her the confidence to believe that you will make it right.

Advise your manager

The best thing to do after realizing that you have made a mistake and taking the proper steps to come up with a solution is to advise your manager.

This may be a scary thing, but telling your manager about a mistake is a lot less scary than being asked about it.

While no one likes mistakes, you need to believe that your manager will understand and appreciate your honesty.

Explain if necessary

Your employer may ask for you to explain the situation to ensure that everyone is on the same page.

If this happens, lay out your explanation in advance. Preparing yourself beforehand avoids having your nerves kick in and will

keep you from rambling.

Here are some guidelines for explaining your mistake:

- Summarize the situation as concisely as possible
- Leave others out of the explanation
- Think about what the repercussions could be and how you could handle them if needed
- Put together the steps that you took to acknowledge and fix your mistake
- Briefly discuss what you have learned and how you will avoid making the same mistake again.

Debrief yourself

You've acknowledged the mistake, provided a solution and spoken with your employer. It's time to get back to work.

However, there may still be a lot going on in your mind (Did I explain myself enough? Do they understand? Are they mad? Am I going to get fired?). It can be hard not to fixate on the situation.

Try and take a break to debrief your mind, if possible. If that's not an option, take a moment to remind yourself of the positive accomplishments you've enjoyed at your job, and set those off against this passing error.

This will settle your concerns so you can get back to being productive!

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Going up to bat in a casual chat

The on-the-spot interview. A recruitment can occur at any time. Be ready!

ROSIE
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TalentEgg.ca

Your job hunt is all about preparation. Careful research, polished cover letters and resumés and a clear plan for the future are all key to your success.

Don't overlook a crucial component of the job hunt that could be essential to snagging your dream job: the on-the-spot interview.

If you're networking or attending an info session, you may find yourself in a casual conversation that suddenly turns the heat up when a big name figure or recruiter starts asking you the tough questions.

Presenting yourself in just a few minutes might seem nerve-racking, but these tips will help you ace an on-the-spot interview.

Get excited

First impressions matter a great deal. If you seem like you're dreading an interview-style conversation, that's going to affect your responses and how they're received.

When presented with the opportunity to take part in an on-the-spot interview, imagine it as getting one step closer to a job.

Yes, it's a challenge, but that doesn't mean you have to treat it like a hurdle.

Your thoughts?

TalentEgg:
#QuestionoftheDay: How do you prepare for an interview? Share your tips to help out other interviewees!

- @aadamzaidi: #QuestionoftheDay To boost confidence, I tell myself that it would be their loss to not hire me and back it up with my skills.
- @HanleyShaun: #QuestionoftheDay Research the company, find out everything I can, good and bad, so I have questions and can interview them.
- @rosieghales: I write a list of potential questions, brainstorm answers, and think of examples to back them up! #QuestionoftheDay



Close your conversation with a handshake and a wrap-up statement that indicates you appreciated the opportunity to talk. Suggest following-up on your conversation and exchange contact information as appropriate. ISTOCK

the spur of the moment and are tempted to show up in street wear, think again. Wearing appropriate attire helps communicate that you're taking the event seriously, and indicates to a prospective employer that you understand the importance of following a dress code.

A good rule of thumb is to dress as if you were attending a formal interview on-site at a company, or a little more formal than their daily dress code.

Err on the side of conservative dress, but try to include a unique detail that reflects your personality.

Tip: If it's impossible for you to get into your preferred net-working outfit, be sure to at least wear something more

dressy than you'd wear on an average day. No knapsacks!

Brainstorm better answers

Before you attend a recruitment event or info session, challenge yourself with commonly-asked interview questions. For ex-

ample:

- Why do you want to work at our company?
- What are your greatest strengths and weaknesses?
- What are you looking for in a career?

You may think you've got these questions covered, particularly if you think well on your feet. However, providing a memorable answer isn't just about saying relevant things. These questions are generic, and even great answers that are all about you will sound generic as well. Don't just talk about yourself. Use your answers to show active engagement with the structure and workplace culture of your potential employer.

Tip: This is a good opportunity to identify and prioritize what you're looking for in an employer. The results may surprise you!

Practice your elevator pitch

Your on-the-spot interview won't necessarily be a time-consuming activity. It might

be as simple as one of many possible open-ended questions, like: "What makes you a great candidate?"

This is where crafting a good elevator pitch comes in. Ask yourself: "If I was stuck in an elevator for 60 seconds with a brilliant figure from my industry, what would I say to make him or her want to work with me?" You'll need to be ready to demonstrate your exceptional qualities while tailoring your response to an employer's specific question. There are no quick tricks here, just good old practice. Figure out the angle you want to use, then practise adjusting it to different situations.

Tip: The goal is to sound prepared, not rehearsed. With regular practice, you'll be able to improvise and maintain a natural attitude while making a strong impression.

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2013 Information Sessions

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Brianne Theisen Eaton celebrates winning a silver medal in the heptathlon at the world track and field championships in Moscow on Tuesday.
ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Newlywed ups her game to win silver

Track and field.

Theisen Eaton captures her first world championship medal to complement her husband's gold

The Eatons finished their working honeymoon in Russia on Tuesday, ever so close to making it a double-gold celebration at the world track and field championships.

Brianne Theisen Eaton of Humboldt, Sask., failed to sufficiently shake off Ganna Melnichenko in the final 800-metre race of the heptathlon and finished with a silver medal two days after her husband, Ashton Eaton, won gold in the decathlon.

Making history

The medal was Canada's second in Moscow after London's Damian Warner won bronze in the decathlon.

- It's the first time Canadian athletes have ever won medals in male and female combined events at the same world championship.

After two days of competition, Theisen Eaton no longer had the legs to create a decisive gap ahead of Melnichenko. And while the Ukrainian went celebrating wrapped in her national flag, Theisen Eaton wrapped herself in the warmest of embraces of her smiling husband, Eaton, who's an American. Barely a month



Damian Warner GETTY IMAGES

after marriage, they proved it was a near-perfect competitive match as she gained her first global medal.

"I watched Ashton the last couple of years winning all his medals and could only sit back and imagine what that felt like," said Theisen Eaton.

"Ashton and I talked about both being on the podium

here. It was definitely our plan. We'll probably just go home now, sit on the couch for a few days watching television and eating crappy food."

A real honeymoon could also be on the agenda.

"We're contemplating on the honeymoon," Theisen Eaton said. "Now would be the perfect time to go lay on the beach."

Melnichenko won her first major competition with 6,586 points, compared to 6,530 for Theisen Eaton, who became the third Canadian woman to win a world championship medal. Hurdlers Priscilla Lopes-Schliep (silver in 2009) and Perdita Felicien (gold in 2003 and silver 2007) are the others.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tennis

Pospisil advances to second round in Cincinnati

Canada's Vasek Pospisil cruised into the second round of the Western & Southern Open when French opponent Gilles Simon retired with an injury today.

Simon was trailing 6-3, 1-1 when he ended the match.

Pospisil, a native of Vernon, B.C., is coming off a semifinal appearance at the Rogers Cup in Montreal, a result that vaulted him to 40th spot in the ATP world rankings. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Toronto places Johnson on DL

The Blue Jays placed starting pitcher Josh Johnson on the 15-day disabled list Tuesday.

Johnson had been scratched from a start Monday after feeling soreness in the forearm, but he said the arm felt fine Tuesday prior to the workout.

The 29-year-old (2-8) has a 6.20 earned-run average but felt he had made a step forward after pitching five spotless innings last week in Seattle. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Former league MVP on waivers

The Minnesota Twins have placed Canadian first baseman Justin Morneau on revocable waivers.

If Morneau is claimed before Wednesday's deadline, the Twins can work out a trade with the claiming team to let that team take his contract or pull him back and keep him in Minnesota.

Morneau, a native of New Westminster, B.C., was the American League's most valuable player in 2006. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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YEARS



Toronto Blue Jays right fielder Jose Bautista looks up after hitting a pop-up foul ball against the Red Sox in Toronto on Tuesday. For the game's final score and more go to metronews.ca. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Paul Kitchen, head of school at Rothsay Netherwood in

“Jordan is a fine, fine young man who worked hard at his academics, who worked hard at his relationship with

THE CANADIAN PRESS

"Russia has committed to provide all visitors and fans with a warm welcome ..." FIFA said, adding that, "FIFA trusts that the 2018 FIFA World Cup hosts will deliver on this promise." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Having a baby.

Having twins.

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2014 Ford Transit Wagon



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A peek at the dash.

Technology

Also available is SYNC with MyFord Touch, which is the automaker's latest voice-controlled infotainment and communications system, plus your selection of either cargo-van-style side-hinged rear doors or a more traditional liftgate.

Fuel Economy

Seeing as Ford is boasting better than 6.0 l/100 km highway rating for the turbo, 9.0 l/100 km in the city and 6.1 on the highway is a reasonable guess with the base 2.5 being a touch thirstier.

Design

The retiring Transit Connect's tall body was always better suited for work-van duty, while the new Transit Connect Wagon's stylish sheet metal seems far more car-like in looks and in application. In fact, it's a long overdue departure from the classic minivan shape.

Review. A fresh take on the minivan ... from Europe? Yes indeed

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

Nowhere in Ford's press or promotional literature will you see the 2014 Transit Connect Wagon referred to as a minivan.

But one walk around this big-roofed rig with its dual-sliding side doors and up to seven passenger seating capacity is enough to confirm that "minivan" is the most relevant designation, even if it's from Europe.

The TC Wagon, which arrives in late 2013, is the junior-sized civilian offshoot of a series of new windowless commercial-vans heading to North America from Ford's factory in Spain.

Unlike the Mazda, the TC Wagon will be offered in five and seven passenger sizes, separated by about 41 centi-

metres in overall length and in distance between the front and rear wheels. The pair replaces the original five-passenger Transit Connect van that arrived for the 2010 model year.

The five-passenger TC Wagon's just-right size is more esthetically pleasing, but for larger families the elongated seven-seat version will likely get the nod. Both are finished off as well as any other members of Ford's compact fleet, including the Focus sedan and hatchback and Escape small utility vehicle.

With three distinct trim levels — XL, XLT and Titanium — the TC Wagon can be spiced up just about any way you want, from utilitarian basic to full-on premium class transporter with leather seat coverings, king-size panoramic glass roof, a navigation system with a 6.5-inch (16.5-centimetre) screen, fancy wheels, upgraded sound system and other niceties.

In either case, the split-folding second-row — and the dual fore-and-aft-sliding third-



There's more than ample room to transport large goods with the seats folded down.

row seats found in extended models — can be flattened for maximum stowage. The TC Wagon will accommodate up to 545 kilograms of cargo and tow up to 910 kilograms. Think personal water craft or ATV here.

Along with its compact silhouette, the TC Wagon promises to maintain a solid grip on fuel consumption by way of its engines. The starting point is a 2.5-litre four-cylinder, while a turbocharged 1.6-litre four-cylinder "EcoBoost" powerplant is optional.

Far from being just a cargo

van with added windows and seats, the Transit Connect Wagon is nothing short of a fully turned-out utility hauler. Ford is keeping the starting prices to itself for now, but you'll likely be able to drive a short-wheelbase model off the lot for about \$27,500, which would put the longer model at close to \$30,000.

The TC Wagon represents a breakthrough of sorts in the minivan field, even if, categorically speaking, Ford would rather you refer to it as something other than a minivan.

Compare



1 Mazda5
Base price: \$23,500



2 Dodge Grand Caravan
Base price: \$23,200



3 Honda Odyssey
Base price: \$31,600

5 DRIVE

So curious about plutonium's potential

Autopilot. With the success of The Curiosity on Mars should we now look at nuclear power as a viable car fuel source?



AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Earlier this month, NASA's latest robotic rover, Curiosity, celebrated its first anniversary of roaming around the planet Mars. So far it's been a great road trip.

No tickets. Lots of fun photo opportunities. Lots of great rocks to pulverize with its lasers. Only one temporary breakdown.

For sure, the technology on this thing is just out of this world. Consider the six wheels, each with an independent drive motor, the instruments that can analyze rock formations, before and after the lasers zap them into a state of plasma, and the powerful jack-hammer located at the

end of its six-foot robotic arm.

But the technology that really gets me going is its power source, otherwise known as the Multi-Mission Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator (MMRTG). Basically it's a nuclear thing, using non-weapon grade plutonium known as Plutonium 238.

The heat given off by plutonium's alpha rays can be used to keep things warm, and can be converted into lots and lots of electricity.

The other two Mars rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, run on solar energy, but NASA felt nuclear was the better option for Curiosity's rock-analyzing mission, which called for power-hungry tools, and lots of travelling in winter (dark and cold) and through dusty territory (dust on solar panels).

NASA also uses an MMRTG for fuelling the probe currently on its way to Pluto.

Look, I'm no nuclear scientist, couldn't even play one on regional cable

TV programming, but I'm pretty sure Curiosity is the only "vehicle" ever successfully fuelled by plutonium. Sure there are lots of nuclear-powered submarines and air craft carriers out there, and there's always the time-travelling DeLorean in Back to the Future, but after that the pickings get smaller than atom particles.

I don't believe Curiosity's "Check Engine" light came on once. Should we reconsider atomic cars, now that Curiosity has been so successful and reliable?

Well, to keep the discussion going, here's a short list of the pros and cons of powering future vehicles with plutonium-based thermoelectric generators:

Let's go plutonium!

- Best name ever for a vehicle fuel.
- No more fill-ups. Plutonium 238 has a half-life of 87.7 years, and should outlast your Subaru no problem.
- Comes in a lovely shade of glowing apricot.

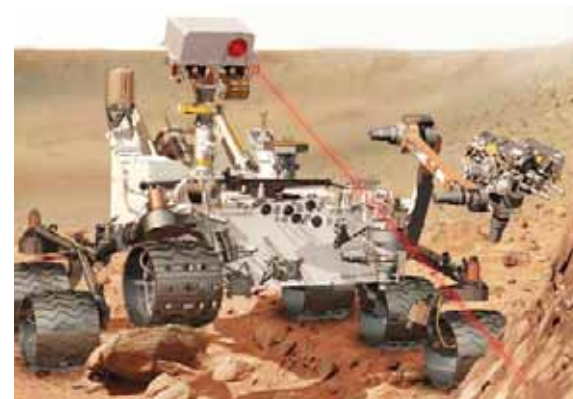
Let's not go plutonium!

- Drivers and passengers need to wear heavy and uncomfortable anti-radiation armour.

- It's pricey and rare. NASA's looking for \$30 million to re-start Plutonium 238 production, to top up dwindling supplies. NASA hopes to make three pounds per year.

- Could lead to more car thefts, as plutonium is fanatically and historically coveted by nefarious international villain types.

- Auto technicians at Canadian Tire will require additional training.



The nuclear-powered Curiosity explored the harsh terrains of Mars. CONTRIBUTED



The 1958 Ford Nucleon. PHOTO: FORD MOTOR COMPANY

Watching for cyclists? Your car may be too

Driving force. The clever radar system Pedestrian and Cyclist Detection is a godsend that will save lives

JIL
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In a collision between a car and a bicycle, the car is going to win every time. While several automakers have emergency braking or cruise control systems that can recognize other vehicles ahead, some can also identify cyclists, including the system from Volvo.

The system, called Pedestrian and Cyclist Detection with full auto brake, is able to identify the unique shape of someone on a bicycle ahead of the car. "It's a camera and radar-based system," says Martin Magnusson, senior engineer and function developer for Volvo Cars in Sweden. "It uses a camera to detect the bicycle and cyclist, and then it uses radar to confirm the detection.

Technological wonder

"It uses a camera to detect the bicycle and cyclist, and then it uses radar to confirm the detection. It will look for the characteristics of a human being, the head, arms and legs, and then it also detects that there is a bicycle."

Martin Magnusson, senior engineer and function developer for Volvo Cars in Sweden

It will look for the characteristics of a human being, the head, arms and legs, and then it also detects that there is a bicycle." The system uses Volvo's Auto Brake, which will automatically apply the vehicle's brakes if it detects an imminent collision, and the driver ignores a warning and doesn't hit the brakes. At lower speeds, it can stop the car before it hits something.

At higher speeds, the car might not have enough time to stop completely, but the

Details

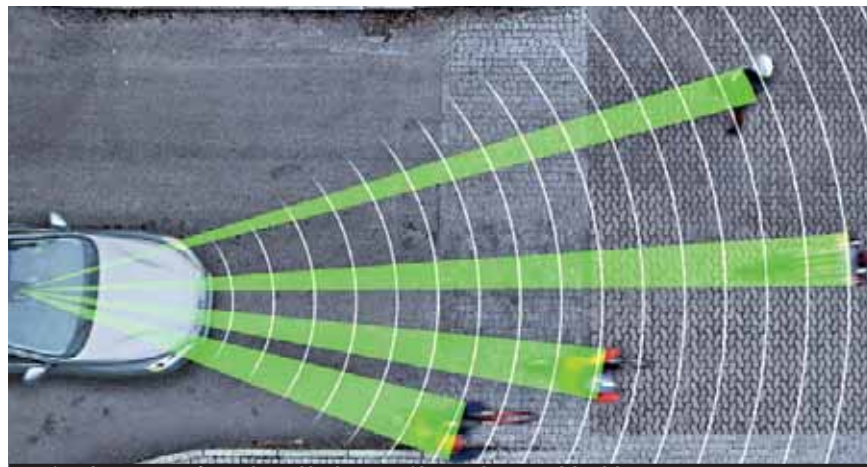
- **Launch.** Volvo launched its vehicle detection system in 2006, and added pedestrian detection, a more complex system, in 2010.

- **Stats.** According to CAA, some 7,500 cyclists are seriously injured in crashes each year in Canada, most of them during the afternoon rush hour.

- **Deadly locations.** The majority of cyclist deaths occur at intersections with lights or other traffic controls.

impact speed will be reduced. The chance of serious injury or death skyrockets as speed increases. It's estimated that a pedestrian hit by a car going 32 km/h has a five per cent chance of being killed, but if the car is going 64 km/h, the risk of fatality increases to 85 per cent.

"The system constantly monitors the traffic situation and does what we call select assessment," Magnusson says.



In action: The new system from Volvo could reduce car accident numbers around the globe. CONTRIBUTED

"It's a threat evaluation, (to see if) it's a dangerous situation or not. When there is a high risk of a collision with a bicycle, the system will warn with a red flashing light in the windshield and a warning sound. If the driver doesn't react, the system will automatically brake the vehicle."

Developing the system wasn't easy, since it has to be able to detect cyclists no mat-

ter what they are wearing, and in rain or bright sunshine. The system can also pick out motorcycles. At the moment, it can only detect cyclists that are riding in front of the car in the same direction, but engineers are working on identifying cyclists that ride across the car's path. In future, the system may also be able to identify and stop for large animals. "We are constantly looking at

new scenarios where people can be injured or killed, and we can work to add them," Magnusson says. According to CAA, some 7,500 cyclists are seriously injured in crashes each year in Canada, most of them during the afternoon rush hour.

The majority of cyclist deaths occur at intersections with lights or other traffic controls.

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*Limited time finance purchase offer available through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit. MSRP of \$14,990 for a new and unregistered 2013 Jetta 2.0L base model with 5-speed manual transmission, plus \$1,395 freight and PDI, financed at 1.9% APR for 84 months equals 182 bi-weekly payments of \$97. Down payment due at signing. Cost of borrowing is \$1,127 for a total obligation of \$17,512. PPSA fee, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. **Limited time cash discount on purchase of a new and unregistered 2013 Tiguan 4MOTION® Trendline model with 6-speed automatic transmission, to be applied against the final negotiated price before taxes. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offers end September 3, 2013 and are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Models shown: 2013 Jetta 2.5L Highline / Tiguan 2.0T Highline R-Line, with options and accessories, \$24,590/\$41,125. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. Visit vw.ca or your Volkswagen dealer for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo, "Das Auto & Design", "4MOTION", "Jetta" and "Tiguan" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. © 2013 Volkswagen Canada.



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Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

You may have big plans and big expectations but keep a sense of perspective. If you let your enthusiasm race too far ahead, you may make a mistake that slows you right down again. Get the balance right.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

You have what it takes to succeed but there is a touch of doubt in your mind that keeps you from giving your all. What happens today will remind you that doubt can be overcome.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

You are finding it hard to believe in yourself but it doesn't matter. What counts is that others believe in you, and they do. Take it easy today. You have nothing to prove.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Someone you meet socially will praise you to the skies and tell you what a fine human being you are but your intuition warns they are not to be trusted. It's a trick to lull you into a false sense of security.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

What you are worrying about is of no importance. Cosmic activity in the most sensitive area of your chart may make it seem as if the world is against you but it's not true.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Someone in a position of power will try to force you to do something you don't agree with today but they won't succeed. Stand your ground and refuse to do anything that does not meet your standards.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

It's good to be reminded of your limits and what happens over the next 24 hours will stop you in your tracks and balance out a mistake of some kind. Next time, don't go over the top so quickly.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Let your rivals and enemies have the last word today. The yapping they do has very little effect, so why waste your time reacting to it? Save your energy and put it to better use.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

There is nothing wrong with your plans but some people will find fault with them. Ignore the critics and carry on as you are. That will annoy them far more than if you get involved in a war of words.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Someone you have to deal with today won't be in the best of moods but don't let their negativity rub off on you. When they see that their doom and gloom act is having no effect they will give up on it.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

According to the planets what other people tell you is "the truth" and what is really the truth are two different things. Take everything you are told today, especially by "experts", with a large pinch of salt.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

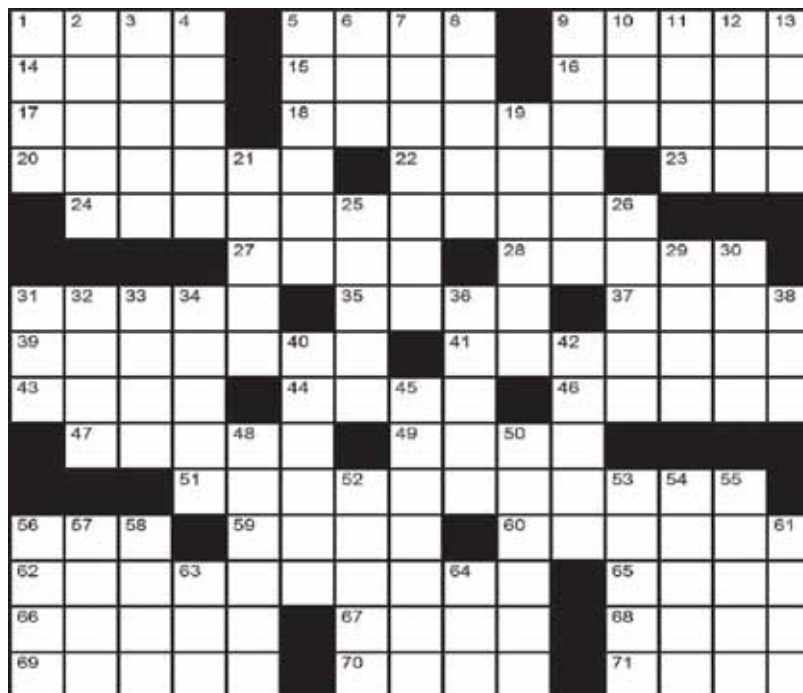
Try not to say anything that might be taken the wrong way by people who have the power to make life tough for you.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

- "Best Song ____" by One Direction
- Cosmetic surgery procedure, commonly
- Flavour
- Cleave
- "Walk Like ____" by The Four Seasons
- Extreme
- E-Mail junk
- Montreal's Expo 67, for one: 2 wds.
- Boredom
- Nautical ropes
- Driver's l'il navigation aid
- Like #48-Down's roof
- Chew at
- Lone Star State resident
- Dishonour
- Michael Jackson's second wife, Debbie ____
- Particular plant
- Guernica artist
- Skirt feature
- Mr. Anthopoulos, Toronto Blue Jays GM
- Village People hit
- Furry mammal that can swim
- Baseball base
- Rock group's blasters
- Chute ____ (Very high waterfall in Quebec)



- Sibling to sis'
- Equipment
- Refuge
- Video game series: 2 wds.
- Create
- Helicopter part
- Biblical birthright trader
- Some athletes, e.g.
- MuchMusic tro-

- phies, commonly
- Quebec singer Mr. Simard
- Feathered farm females
- Down
- Once, poetically
- Venomous snake
- Sidestep
- Send payment
- Sheriff, for one
- Texting point-of-

- view
- Movie sequel installment: 2 wds.
- Songbook standard: "It's ____ Paper Moon"
- Skirmish
- The planet Melmac alien
- Male deer
- Stumble
- Sense organs

- Creditor, informally
- Recommends strongly
- Ricochet shot in billiards
- Glorify
- Dismounted
- the wiser
- Sauna site
- To the ____ (Fully)
- Banda ____ (City)

- in Sumatra in Indonesia)
- Men's magazine; or, saying
- Classic toys company, ____
- Always, in verse
- Locale on Cape Breton Island
- Ten Commandments receiver
- Alberta city southeast of Edmonton
- Toronto Blue Jays home, ____ Centre
- Czech Republic capital
- Giver's opposite
- Mythical maiden
- Ireland's County ____
- Gold (Type of potato)
- Apartment listing abbr.
- Leeway
- According to a-ha, where the sun always shines: 2 wds.
- Predicament
- Tree in Hawaii
- Grandma

Yesterday's Crossword

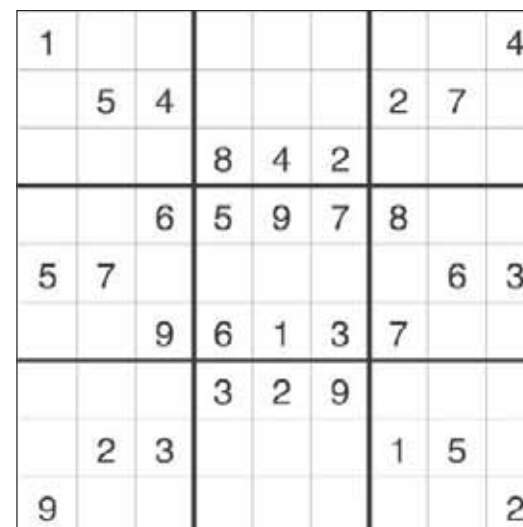


Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



Today



Thursday



Know what the weather
will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.

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